

PRICE ONE CENT.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 31, 1903.

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STOPS POLICE INVASION OF RICH HOMES

Commissioner Greene Calls
Down Capt. Lantry for
Sending His Sleuths to
Act as Amateur Burglars.

ENTERED FIFTY-SIX HOUSES.

Servants Left the Doors Un-
locked, and Lantry Had Told
His Wardman to Go Out Again
Before Greene Rebuked Him.

Police Commissioner Greene does not approve of the action of Capt. Lantry, of the East Fifty-first street station, in sending his plain-clothes men into the homes of wealthy Fifth avenue residents to prove to them that their servants are careless and that frequent robberies are due to this fact. It is possible that Capt. Lantry will be called upon on charges of exceeding his authority, although this has not been decided upon. The Captain is "standing pat."

He was at Police Headquarters bright and early to-day. He had been sent for, Commissioner Greene met him, and the conversation that ensued was sufficient to raise the temperature around Mulberry and Houston streets.

Greene's Letter to Lantry. After the Captain had returned to his precinct Commissioner Greene sent him the following letter:

"Capt. John J. Lantry, Twenty-fourth Precinct:

"Sir—Your action yesterday, as reported in the morning newspapers, in sending plain clothes men to enter private residences in your precinct for the purpose of showing that these residences can be easily entered by burglars, is not approved for the following reasons:

"First—Such action, if justifiable, will in no case be taken by a police captain without previously receiving the approval of the head of the Detective Bureau or the Chief Inspector of Police.

"Second—Rule 12 makes it the duty of policemen to see that the doors of houses are properly protected, but they have no right to enter houses for this purpose, and their action should be limited to giving notice to the occupants by ringing the bell, or otherwise calling their attention to the unprotected condition of the house, but without entering it.

"While it is desirable that the owners of residences should have their attention called to the fact that through carelessness in leaving their doors open their houses can easily be entered by sneak thieves, yet the method adopted by you to call attention to this was in excess of your authority and is not approved.

"FRANCIS V. GREENE,
"Commissioner of Police."

In addition to this the Commissioner made the following statement:

"Capt. Lantry's action was reprehensible and was not justified. If one of his men had been shot I don't see how he could have defended himself.

"I don't want the eighty Captains in the Police Department to think that they can act independently of their superiors. There is an Inspector, a Chief Inspector and a Commissioner to advise Captains and to their powers.

"There is no doubt about the owners of the houses entered yesterday being angry. A member of the family of C. Oliver Iselin, of No. 3 West Fifty-second street, fairly spluttered when he was asked about it to-day.

Calls It an Outrage. "Why, I consider it an outrage," he said. "The police exceeded their authority. They should have rung the front doorbell and informed the servants that the doors were unlocked if they objected to that condition."

"I was much surprised when I heard that the police had walked right into my house," said Miss Tomoney, of No. 11 East Forty-sixth street. "Hereafter I shall try to have the doors kept locked so that neither burglars nor police can get in uninvited."

Edward S. Peck, of No. 53 West Fifty-sixth street, was an exception to the kickers.

WAR-SHIP CUT IN TWO BY PURSUING CRUISER

British Torpedo Boat Destroyer Orwell Hit Amidships by Cruiser Pioneer and Fifteen Men Pinned Under Hatches Carried to Death with the Wreck.

Vessels Engaged in Naval Manoeuvres and Destroyer Was Dodging Larger Boat When Struck—Crash Occurred at Night and Victims Went Down in Ten Seconds.

CORFU, Island of Corfu, Jan. 31.—Fifteen members of the crew of the British torpedo-boat destroyer Orwell were drowned in the Channel off this place to-day after the vessel had been cut in two by the third-class cruiser Pioneer, also of the British Navy. The forward part of the destroyer sank into the sea, but the after part, owing to the water-tight compartments, remained on the surface. The latter was towed into port and docked.

The accident occurred at night during naval manoeuvres in which several English warships were engaged.

Among these was the unfortunate Orwell, which, running at the rate of twenty-seven miles an hour, was attempting to cross the bows of the Pioneer, which was ploughing ahead to prevent her from doing so.

It was a play at warfare, but the sudden termination of this part of the battle game was intensified by a scene of horror.

Thirteen men pinned down under leaking hatches with the water pouring in upon them and they fully cognizant of the fate that was to be theirs, while the sailors of the Pioneer made desperate but ineffectual efforts to rescue them, was a partial result of the collision.

CAUGHT BETWEEN DECKS. The other two who lost their lives by the collision, were thrown from the deck into the water and drawn down in the maelstrom that was occasioned by the sinking of the forward half of the destroyer.

There were frantic cries for aid and shrieks from the men who were caught in the hold. They were terrorized by the frightful crash and overwhelmed by the swirling water as it rushed below decks.

According to the story brought into this port by the crew and captain of the cruiser, the sunken part of the torpedo boat was submerged in less than ten seconds. Then the other section, borne on the crest of a great wave, leaped over the sea for the length of several hundred yards. During the manoeuvres lights had been lowered, this being a part of the strategic practice. When the vessels met the Pioneer put on all lights, and she unshipped all her lifeboats, but there was little that could be done in the way of rescue.

CAPTAIN'S STORY OF CRASH. The captain of the cruiser in relating his story of the occurrence said:

"We did not know that the Orwell was so close at hand, although I was fully aware that an attempt was to be made to get in front of us.

"It was my purpose to outwit the destroyer, but the attempt was all too realistic. When we struck the boat a shiver ran through the Pioneer, and I could the next few seconds hear the cries of the doomed sailors of the boat."

"We had gone clean through the boat and it is wonderful that she did not sink altogether. We had great difficulty in getting the men on the after part of the destroyer into our boats.

"Speed on the Pioneer was at once reversed, but it was too late, for the work of destruction had been done."

SIXTY-FIVE MEN ABOARD.

There were about 65 men on the torpedo boat destroyer. The bodies of only two of the fifteen lost have been recovered.

The Pioneer is a cruiser of the third class. Carried 224 men. She was built in 1890. She is of 2,200 tons displacement, with 7,000 indicated horsepower and two propellers. Her length is 305 feet, her beam 36 feet 9 inches and her draught 13 feet 6 inches. She has a two-inch belt of armor and carries eight 4-inch guns, eight 3-pounders and two torpedo tubes, besides the usual complement of smaller rapid-fire guns. She has a speed of twenty knots.

MAN KILLED AT
HALL OF RECORDS.

Carl Tognalo Fell from a Scaffold and Alighted on his Head Forty-seven Feet Below.

Carl Tognalo, a mechanic employed in the erection of the new Hall of Records, at Chambers and Centre streets, was instantly killed this afternoon by a fall from a scaffold. This is the first fatality attached to the construction of the Hall of Records.

Tognalo, who was employed by Jacobs & Co., sub-contractors, was at work on a scaffold under the skylight above the main court of the building. The scaffold is six feet wide and securely built. Above him, on the iron work of the skylight, were Foreman George Carter and other workmen.

It was the duty of Tognalo to pass the heavy glass plates up to his fellow workmen to be fastened in the framework. In doing this he lost his balance and fell forty-seven feet to the marble floor of the scaffold, alighting on his head. He was dead when an ambulance arrived from Hudson Street Hospital.

Tognalo was thirty-five years old, married and had one child. He lived in Macdougall street near the corner of Bleeker street. Foreman Carter told the police that there was no one within six feet of Tognalo when he slipped.

ASSAY OFFICE FIRE MENACES \$45,000,000

Mysterious Blaze Threatens
to Melt to a Solid Mass
Huge Pile of Gold Held
by the Government.

FUMES DRIVE CLERKS BACK.

Explosion of Gases Led to the
Flames, Which Threatened
Huge Accumulation of Pre-
cious Bars.

Forty-five million dollars of Uncle Sam's gold was in danger of being melted down in one solid lump by a fire in the United States Assay Office, next door to the Sub-Treasury, a little after noon.

It came from a slight explosion of gases used in the laboratory and created a dense and suffocating smoke, but the firemen got the blaze under control in a short time. The damage was small, mostly to the furniture and fittings of the office, but Wall Street had a good deal of fun over it.

The fire started on the second floor where the heating stoves are, from the laboratory on the first floor there runs a pipe up to the roof to carry off the noxious gases. This pipe is located just between the two buildings whose rear ends abut from Pine and Wall streets and make the assay office. It is finely constructed of wood and has no covering on the roof to prevent sparks from falling down it, should they chance to drop toward the Assay Building.

Origin a Mystery. How the gases came to ignite no one knows. It was at first assumed that there was a leak in the wooden pipe which permitted the nitric acid fumes to escape, and that it was ignited from the fire in one of the stoves, but this is denied by all those who were in the office. They say the fumes had been drawn and all work stopped for the day. There was a gas jet within four feet of the pipe and possibly the gas was ignited in this way, or a spark may have fallen down the pipe from the roof.

In any event, a little after noon Edward E. Page, the computing clerk, who was on the second floor, saw through the chimneys in the pipe sparks and then smoke. He gave the alarm and the apparatus for fire fighting was rushed out by some of the clerks, while the others hustled to put away all the loose assay samples and to lock up the great vaults holding the dazzling fortune of \$45,000,000 in gold bars.

Clerks Stifled by Fumes. The clerks found that the gas in the flue was too much for their nose. Before they could get it fairly started the wooden flue was burned through and the suffocating fumes came belching out into the room. It was then a case of get to the street or choke to death. They all ran pell-mell into Pine and Wall streets, each taking the door that was nearest. Some one had meantime turned in an alarm of fire and the engines came clattering through Wall and Pine streets.

The firemen buckled to, but they had a hard job for a few minutes. The smoke permeated the whole neighborhood. There wasn't much need of the establishment of fire lines. Any one who got too close simply gagged and fought for his breath until he could get back out of range of the acid-laden smoke.

Building in Danger. Deputy Chief Kruger was in charge of the fight and he soon got his men where they could train their hose lines on the flames which first reached down to the first floor and then shot up to the roof. The building being old, and largely of wood, was at one time in danger of destruction. In a half hour the firemen had the flames under control.

The second floor of the building and the attic above are entirely burned out. An entire new roof will have to be put on, and it is estimated by the police that \$5,000 will hardly cover the damage.

Secretary Shaw a week ago recommended to Congress that \$50,000 be appropriated to build a new assay office as the building was old and unfit for the use it was put to. It is hoped by Wall Street men that the fire of to-day will hasten action by Congress.

GENERAL STAFF BILL PASSED

Senate Acts on Army Measure Advocated by Secretary.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—The Senate has passed the general staff bill advocated by Secretary Root, with an amendment providing for retirement.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Forecast for the thirty-six hours ending at 8 P. M. Sunday for New York City and vicinity:

Fair to-night; Sunday generally fair and warmer; brisk to fresh westerly winds, becoming south to east Sunday.

The Latest Stock News Via Route. It is placed on the Pennsylvania Road when the markets close each day. Circulation 100,000. Only 20 cents to Chicago.

Sunday World Wants. Work Monday Morning Wonders.

ASSAY OFFICE WHERE FIRE MENACED \$45,000,000 IN GOLD.



BURGLAR CHASE ON "L" ROAD NEAR DEADLY 3D RAIL.

Charles Meyer Dashes Out on Track and Hops
Over Ties for Several Blocks with
Policeman in Pursuit.

Charles Meyer, charged with burglary, was caught after a sharp chase over the ties of the Second Avenue "L" to-day, and when brought to bay stood off a crowd of citizens and a policeman with a pistol.

He had to be beaten into insensibility before he could be arrested. Meyer and a companion, who escaped, broke into the apartments of Mrs. Minnie Indig at No. 224 East One Hundred and Ninth street and were leaving with everything of value in the place, wrapped up in two bundles, when the woman met them coming down the stairs. They shoved her aside and ran put the front door. Mrs. Indig gave chase, crying, "Stop thief!"

Not a train was in sight, and Meyer chose the ties as the only means of escape. He jumped down on the track, narrowly missing the third rail.

Held at Bay with Pistol. The three pursuers were close at his heels and chased him as far as One Hundred and Ninth street where the burglar suddenly turned and came to bay with a pistol aimed at the trio.

Mulvaney knocked him down but Meyer was up in a twinkling and leveling his weapon at the men again he told them not to approach on peril of being killed.

Policeman John McLaughlin, of the One Hundred and Fourth Street Station, came up a minute later and called upon Meyer to surrender. He refused, and had to be beaten down with a club before he would give up his pistol.

He was identified by Mrs. Indig as one of the burglars and Mrs. Annie Ackers, of No. 222 East One Hundred and Ninth street, who said that he entered her store a week ago and snatched \$40 from the till.

MAN DRIFTS TO SEA ON SCOW, BUT REFUSES TO ASK FOR AID.

Two scows are adrift beyond the Sandy Hook Lightship, one with a man aboard and the other deserted. The two men who were on the latter when she broke loose from the towing tug having been rescued.

Tugs are cruising about in search of the scows.

La Lorraine, which arrived to-day from Havre, passed the scow with the man aboard six miles west of Fire Island Lightship and stood by, but he did not ask for aid.

The scows broke loose from the tug H. B. Chamberlain, Capt. Peter Cherry, which tows refuse for the city.

LATE RESULTS AT NEW ORLEANS.

Fourth Race—McChesney 1, Hargis 2, Harry New 3.
Fifth Race—Brief 1, Satin Coat 2, Hayward Hunter 3.

MAY BE A FIREBUG'S WORK.

Fire in Mrs. Annie McCue's flat, at No. 371 Eighth avenue this afternoon was of such a mysterious origin that it is believed to have been the work of an incendiary. The damage was small.

SUDDEN END TO VENEZUELAN PEACE PLANS.

Flat Refusal of Germany, England and Italy
to Accept Minister Bowen's Proposal to
Share Revenues Equally Gives Warlike
Turn to Affairs.

Baron Von Sternburg, Who Came Here to
Negotiate a Settlement, Cables Emperor
William that the Outlook is Gloomy—
France Will Insist on Her Claims.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31.—The allies have rejected Minister Bowen's last proposal that all nations having claims against Venezuela be given the same treatment as the blockading powers.

The answers of the allies have been received here and they reject in toto the proposal.

This flat refusal of England, Germany and Italy, couched in emphatic language, brings matters dangerously near a crisis, and may lead to combine action by the United States, France and other nations having claims against Venezuela, to force a settlement.

Just what this may lead to is only problematical, but the situation is one not desired, as it might give Germany and the two nations allied with her an excuse at any moment to make a move on Venezuelan waters that might lead to a general clash.

Roosevelt Concerned. President Roosevelt and the members of his Cabinet are plainly deeply concerned by this latest hostile action and take little pains to conceal it.

When Baron von Sternburg, who has just arrived here to conduct the negotiations in the Venezuelan matter, called on President Roosevelt to-day to present his credentials he was quite as optimistic as to a peaceful settlement as he was when he arrived in port yesterday.

He assured the President that Emperor William's sentiments were most cordial and desired the pleasant relations to continue in every respect.

"The Emperor would as soon have thought of colonizing the moon as to think of obtaining territory, or even a single station, in a South American republic," he said.

"He knows and understands how the American people regard the doctrine, and admitting the American people as he is, and earnestly desiring their good will, he would never for a moment think of violating the letter or the spirit of the doctrine."

Outlook Gloomy. But when he had called at the State Department and consulted Secretary Hay, and later this afternoon visited Minister Bowen and read the not blank refusal of Germany, England and Italy

to share equally the Venezuela's customs, his manner changed and he frankly confessed that the outlook was decidedly gloomy.

The Baron was so impressed that he immediately cabled his impressions to Emperor William.

The answers received by Minister Bowen from Germany, England and Italy were to the effect that the allies could not consent that the United States and the other claimant nations receive the same treatment as the blockading powers and that they therefore rejected in toto Mr. Bowen's final proposition.

Knowing the consequences that were to follow the presentation of this answer the representatives of the allies took upon themselves the responsibility of withholding the notes of their Governments and of again cabling, urging a retraction of their preferential demand.

Exchanges are still in progress between the Italian, British and German embassies, but there is no evidence that the allies intend yielding.

If they hold out their representatives must present the joint refusal and the Washington negotiations will come to a standstill.

Meanwhile Mr. Bowen is biding his time. He is keeping Caracas informed as to the progress of events here, and is counseling patience, hoping that the powers will be satisfied of counter proposals. Two days have now passed without any communications between Minister Bowen and the representatives of the allies.

France to Insist. During a call to-day of Mr. De Margerie upon Secretary Hay, the fact developed that the French charge has received specific instructions from his Government to insist that France shall not be discriminated against in the settlement of the Venezuelan claims.

Having the personal assurance of Mr. Bowen that these French claims shall not be discriminated against, Mr. Margerie refrains at present from action, but as soon as he shall be assured by Mr. Bowen that the allies refuse to permit such treatment to the French claims, he expects he will take steps to lodge a formal protest against the proposed discrimination, and in so doing he expects to give the representatives of the other claimant nations

Prat and the armored cruiser Esmeralda had been offered to take over the warships now being built in Europe for Chile.

the body of a woman. A moment later the wall washed back from the face of the corpse and he recognized his wife. Grandon had been out of employment for some time preceding his wife's disappearance. It is believed here that the body because he was without money and could not support her as she wished. She was thirty years of age and had been very attractive.

KILLED AT BIG STORE FIRE.

Victim Caught Under Falling Walls and Others Injured.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Jan. 31.—The large department store at Weinstein, Lubin & Co. was destroyed by fire to-day. Frank Kasebolt, a fireman, was killed by a falling wall and Al. Brown had his back broken and was killed by a falling wall and Al. Brown. The loss may reach \$1,000,000. The property was heavily insured.